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Attorney Docket No. ELBX 20.678 (100792-00062)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: David ELBERBAUM  
Serial No.: 10/696,497  
Filed: October 29, 2003  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS...  
Examiner:  
Art Unit: 2615  
Con. No.: 5743

February 18, 2004

Director of the U.S. Patent and  
Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

S I R:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and a copy of the documents listed thereon. This document contains information in which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

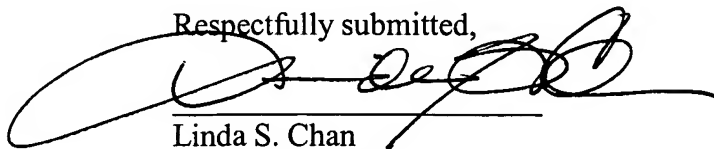
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 §CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will

determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Linda S. Chan', is written over a horizontal line.

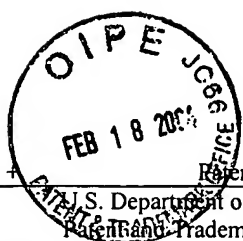
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Docket No.: NECN 18.280(100933-16777)



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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 1

Application No. : 10/696,497  
Filing Date : October 29, 2003  
First Named Inventor: D. ELBERBAUM  
Group Art Unit : 2615  
Examiner Name :  
Attorney Docket No. : ELBX 20.678

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known <sup>2</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		4,943,864		ELBERBAUM	07/24/1990	
		5,267,039		ELBERBAUM	11/30/1993	
		4,603,352		ELBERBAUM	07/29/1986	

**FOREIGN DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Office <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY/Y	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

**Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents**

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), data, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check here if English language translation attached
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

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